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In Chapters II and IV the investigators set forth a standard budget, calling it a "fair standard." The setting of a standard is more difficult than recording what families actually spend, because it involves values and is peculiarly liable to subjective influences. It is interesting to know that the authors set \$1,069.94 as the yearly expenditure at a fair standard of living for a textile-mill worker's family of five, consisting of father, mother, a girl of 10, a boy of 6, and a boy of 4 in 1913-14 in Kensington, Philadelphia. But one wishes to know the objective basis for calling it a "fair standard" and an account of what a "fair standard" is in some terms other than the classes of items. There are any number of standards of living. They could be plotted in a series. But why is a particular one singled out and called a fair one? A listing of concrete items does not make it a "fair" one. It might be "fair" to the authors but not to the reader or to some other investigator. There should be some objective tests upon which there would be common agreement, as when we say the temperature of a room should be kept in winter at 68 degrees Fahrenheit. The reader feels a certain confidence in the authors' standard because he sees that the authors are very familiar with the life of the community. But this is not an objective basis. It is certainly too much to expect at the present stage of the evolution of budget studies to arrive at a thoroughly objective standard, and the authors should not be particularly criticized for this failure since no investigator, so far as the reviewer knows, has made much of a success in setting such objective tests for a standard budget. But such a step in the evolution of budget studies is very much to be desired.

In summary it may be said that this study of family budgets furnishes a great deal of very satisfactory detail and that it is a welcome addition of apparently carefully collected data; but its presentation is not particularly expert, nor does there seem to be any significant contribution to methods not already well known and in use at that time.

WILLIAM F. OGBURN.

Official Yearbook of the Commonwealth of Australia. Statistics for Period 1901 to 1918, No. 12, 1919. Prepared by G. H. Knibbs, Commonwealth Statistician.

Australia's official yearbook is a statistical institution with which the members of this association are familiar. The issuance of the most recent volume bringing the statistics up to 1918, however, affords an opportunity for a brief notice. A general survey of the subjects covered in the yearbook makes one envious of the possibility of canvassing so vast a field in one volume, even though it be a volume of 1,234 pages. The volume, furthermore, is not confined to statistics, but contains a large amount of data on all phases of economic and social life of Australia. Continuity between the volumes for successive years is maintained by publishing every year special articles on various topics and printing in each issue a list of the previous articles with references. Consequently the possession of the latest volume of the yearbook enables the reader to obtain all the statistical data about Australia and gives him in addition a valuable list of references on the topics discussed in previous years.

One reason for Mr. Knibbs' ability to cover so many phases of Australian life in the compass of one volume is brought out by the population map which emphasizes the familiar fact that only the southwestern portion of the continent is at all thickly inhabited, so that the area to be covered is much smaller than the continent. It is of interest that the total population of Australia in 1918 was only slightly over 5 millions and that about 96 per cent of that population were natives of Australia or the United Kingdom, while the total proportion of persons of non-European origin was less than 1 per cent. The great contrast in this respect between the United States and Australia

impresses an American statistician. Having always controlled immigration and encouraged only arrivals from the home country and of similar stock, Australia has preserved a homogeneity unequaled by any other colonial territory. Australia is not only a white man's country but a Britisher's country, and this fact has had a decided influence on her institutions and economic development.

The volume contains an excellent map of Australia prepared with the assistance of the commonwealth meteorologist. Many interesting charts are also included in the yearbook. A chart on page 140 shows the growth of the population in Australia, separately for each sex, from 1860 to 1918, as compared with the rate of increase in the United States from 1790 to 1860. Presumably this rate of increase for the United States is chosen as representing approximately the period of development through which Australia is now going. It is of interest that up to 1895 the Australian rate for males was similar to the United States rate, but since that date it has been falling very far behind. On the other hand, in the case of the females the Australian rate did not fall behind the United States rate until 1914, and it is still not very far behind. This increase in the female population reflects the change from a pioneer country to a settled country. As a matter of fact, Australia contains now more women than men, the excess of women being about 1.67 per cent. In 1859 Australia's population was a little over one million and in 1918 it was about five millions, the greatest increase occurring during the first thirty years of settlement. Maximum immigration is recorded during the five-year period 1881-85, at which time it reached 224,000. Since that time it has been on a decline; for the five years 1911-15 the number was 100,000; for the period 1916-18, however, owing to the departure of many Australians to the battlefields, a net loss through emigration of 136,000 is shown. The total increase through immigration from 1861 to 1918 is 770,000.

Australia's deliberate policy of maintaining racial unity at the cost of slower development is the outstanding fact in a survey of its statistical record.

E. A. GOLDENWEISER.

Special Tables of Mortality from Influenza in Indiana, Kansas, and Philadelphia, Pa., September 1-December 1, 1918. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, Government Printing Office, 1920. Pp. 181.

These tables, which were prepared under the supervision of Dr. William H. Davis, Chief Statistician for Vital Statistics, and with the coöperation of the United States Public Health Service, constitute an important body of material for statistical analysis of mortality caused by the pandemic of influenza in the United States in the latter part of 1918. The detail in which the special tabulations were made was the result of numerous conferences on the part of an inter-departmental board representing the medical and statistical offices of the Army, Navy, and Public Health Service, and of suggestions from others who are interested in the epidemiology of the disease. It is the most voluminous and detailed mass of mortality data on this subject that has been made available at any one time in this country.

The chief value of the tables lies in the material which they afford for analysis. No attempt has been made in the bulletin to present analyses of the data, with the exception of a few summary tables and graphs showing the mortality rate among persons of different ages and sexes in certain larger cities in Indiana and Kansas, and in Philadelphia, for the two states as a whole, and for rural portions of the two states. The fact that the population estimates according to age, sex, occupation, and geographic division, as well as for other groups and classes of population, were of doubt-